



**Department of Energy**  
Washington, DC 20585

December 3, 2002

Dear ENERGY STAR® Appliance Stakeholder:

On July 18, 2002, the Department of Energy held a public meeting to discuss potential revisions to the criteria for ENERGY STAR Appliances. Specifically, revisions were considered for freezers; standard-size refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers; and compact refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, and freezers not previously assigned an ENERGY STAR criterion.

During the course of the meeting, and in written comments received prior and subsequent to the meeting, the Department received stakeholder input on the goals and objectives of the ENERGY STAR program, as well as issues of priority for the Department to consider in expanding the ENERGY STAR Appliance criteria.

Based on a review of stakeholder comment, as well as research and analysis of the appliance product markets, the Department has determined that expanding the ENERGY STAR program to include freezers; additional sizes of refrigerators and refrigerator-freezers; and compact units best meets the objectives of ENERGY STAR and the majority of its partners.

The new ENERGY STAR criteria, which will take effect January 1, 2003, are attached.

The Department considered a range of factors, including: potential increase in energy efficiency in the product categories; national aggregate energy savings potential; cost effectiveness; and impact on product availability. Additional detail on the criteria review process for ENERGY STAR Appliances, including research, stakeholder comments, and meeting minutes, are available at <http://www.energystar.gov/opie/meetings/old/reffre71802/index.html>.

In setting ENERGY STAR criteria, the Department recognizes not all products will qualify for the label, which is appropriate for a voluntary partnership. At the same time, it is intended the ENERGY STAR criteria will be at a level that will allow a robust mix of products, reflecting a range of technologies from both performance and economic viewpoints.

Please direct any questions or comments on the revised ENERGY STAR Appliances criteria to me at [Richard.Karney@ee.doe.gov](mailto:Richard.Karney@ee.doe.gov) or by facsimile at 202-586-4617. Thank you for your participation in ENERGY STAR.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard H. Karney", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Richard H. Karney, P.E.  
ENERGY STAR Program Manager  
Building Technology Program

*Attachment*